

Representative John J. Duncan, Jr.
2400 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-4202

Dear Mr. Duncan:

Thank you for your letter to the Administrator regarding the University of Tennessee's Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) Laboratory research project to develop and validate a computer model which predicts the distribution of aerosols in a commercial transport aircraft.

Researchers from the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) Civil Aerospace Medical Institute have been working closely with Dr. A. J. Baker, Director of the CFD Laboratory, to develop the computer model. The FAA funded these earlier CFD Laboratory efforts with Aviation Security Research funds that are now controlled by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Further funding on this project will depend on a TSA determination of their priorities.

We wish to assure Dr. Baker and his team at the CFD Laboratory that their work is appreciated. This cooperative working relationship significantly enhanced the model development process, allowing new data to be collected to support interactive model development. It is hoped that such a model can provide a tool for the FAA and industry to study the impact of an agent release, assist in identifying agent spread, and also assist in placing detection devices on an aircraft to provide optimum warning of an agent release.

Sincerely,